

Claims

What is claimed is:

- Full
A!
- 5 1. A system for authenticating an intelligent agent, said system comprising:
- an identifier which ascertains the location and identity of an entry intelligent agent attempting to gain access to the location, the identity being ascertained via an identification tag associated with the intelligent agent;
- a general register of identification tags corresponding to a plurality of intelligent agents and of possible locations at which the registered intelligent agents may gain access;
- and
- 10 a threshold manager which permits access, to a given location, of an entry intelligent agent that corresponds to at least one intelligent agent in said general register.
2. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said threshold manager is adapted to deny access to an entry intelligent agent that does not correspond to at least one intelligent agent in said general register.
- 15 3. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said general register comprises a database.

4. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said identification tags comprise identification numbers.

5. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said threshold manager is adapted to prompt local authentication of an entry intelligent agent in accordance with at least one criterion involving non-recognition of the entry intelligent agent.

6. The system according to Claim 5, wherein the local authentication of an entry intelligent agent prompted by said threshold manager includes requesting a digital signature.

7. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said threshold manager is adapted to
10 compare the ascertained location of an entry intelligent agent with at least one location in
said general register that corresponds to the entry intelligent agent and permits access of
the entry intelligent agent to the ascertained location if the ascertained location coincides
with one of said at least one location in said general register.

8. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said threshold manager is adapted to
15 deny access of the entry intelligent agent to the given location if a time-based criterion is
not satisfied.

9. The system according to Claim 8, wherein the time-based criterion involves whether the entry intelligent agent has requested access to two different locations within a period of time that is less than a predetermined threshold time value.

10. The system according to Claim 1, wherein said identifier includes a position locator system.

11. A method of authenticating an intelligent agent, said method comprising the steps of:

ascertaining the location and identity of an entry intelligent agent attempting to gain access to the location, the identity being ascertained via an identification tag associated with the intelligent agent;

providing a general register of identification tags corresponding to a plurality of intelligent agents and of possible locations at which the registered intelligent agents may gain access; and

permitting access, to a given location, of an entry intelligent agent that corresponds to at least one intelligent agent in said general register.

a

5

BOOK REVIEW